

BACKCOUNTRY AGAINST DUMPS

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January 8, 2015:

Public statement at Boulevard Planning Group meeting

My name is Richard Blaisdell. I am the Vice President for the Board of Directors for the non-profit group Backcountry Against Dumps, based in Boulevard.

Our Board has approved the following statement:

We support the Boulevard Planning Group and vast majority of local residents, property owners, and others who strongly oppose the unnecessary industrialization and transformation of our fire-prone rural communities into renewable energy sacrifice zones and transmission corridors that benefit distant cities and corporations at the expense of impacted residents, a wide variety of natural resources, our quality of life, and our property values which also represent life time investments.

So far, Soitec Solar has successfully lobbied decision makers to approve their very expensive, very destructive, and experimental projects in inappropriate groundwater dependent places, and to hand over tens of millions of dollars from state and federal tax payers.

However, through their own actions and inactions, Soitec has lost their Power Purchase contracts with SDG&E, recent media reports, and DOE peer reviews indicate they have not proven they can compete with cheaper flat solar panels.

As a result, Soitec Solar is having major financial issues and they had to temporarily shut down and reduce production at their San Diego manufacturing facility.

We are putting Soitec, San Diego County, and any potential investors on notice that any approvals for Soitec's destructive Boulevard projects that we are fully prepared to file suit.

Thank you...